



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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May 14, 1999

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Tony Gallegos, Senior Reclamation Specialist *aaJ*

RE: Site Inspection, Umetco Minerals, Incorporated, Wilson-Silverbell Mine, M/037/027, San Juan County, Utah

Date of Inspection: April 29, 1999

Time of Inspection: 1313- 1335

Conditions: Windy, cold

Participants: Tony Bates, Frank Barnett, Umetco; Tony Gallegos and Doug Jensen, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To document the current status of the site while in the area

This site includes two physically distinct shafts and head frames although the Division includes both shafts in one large mine permit. The first area visited was the Silverbell head frame. The Wilson head frame is located to the east of this one. The Silverbell mine involves private surface and mineral. Umetco had a lease agreement with the landowner which lapsed, and according to the terms of this agreement, the landowner has claim to any and all improvements or structures at the mine site. Umetco is supposed to do reclamation under this agreement, but in theory they can't do anything with the structures because they now belong to the landowner. The landowner was identified as J.D. Knuckles. I believe Umetco is going to provide some additional documentation about this lease or what they can or can't do as far as reclaiming the area.

Frank Barnett pointed out that there were some vent holes associated with this mine which are not visible on the quad map, but they would show up on the mine surface facilities map. Umetco has closed seven ventilation boreholes associated with the Wilson-Silverbell mine. Photographs of the general surface facilities were taken to document the site conditions. The Silverbell site includes a metal head frame and hoist house, and waste dumps. The shaft opening is currently blocked by the hoist cage.

We then went to the Wilson head frame area. The Wilson shaft area is also on privately owned surface and mineral rights. The private landowner for the Wilson site is different from the land owner for the Silverbell site. The landowner for this mine site is Owen Poole. Under the lease agreement for the Wilson site, Umetco is to reclaim the area with the exception of several structures which the landowner wants to retain. As part of the reclamation Umetco is supposed to remove the head frame and other features from the mine site and deliver them to a location described by the landowner.

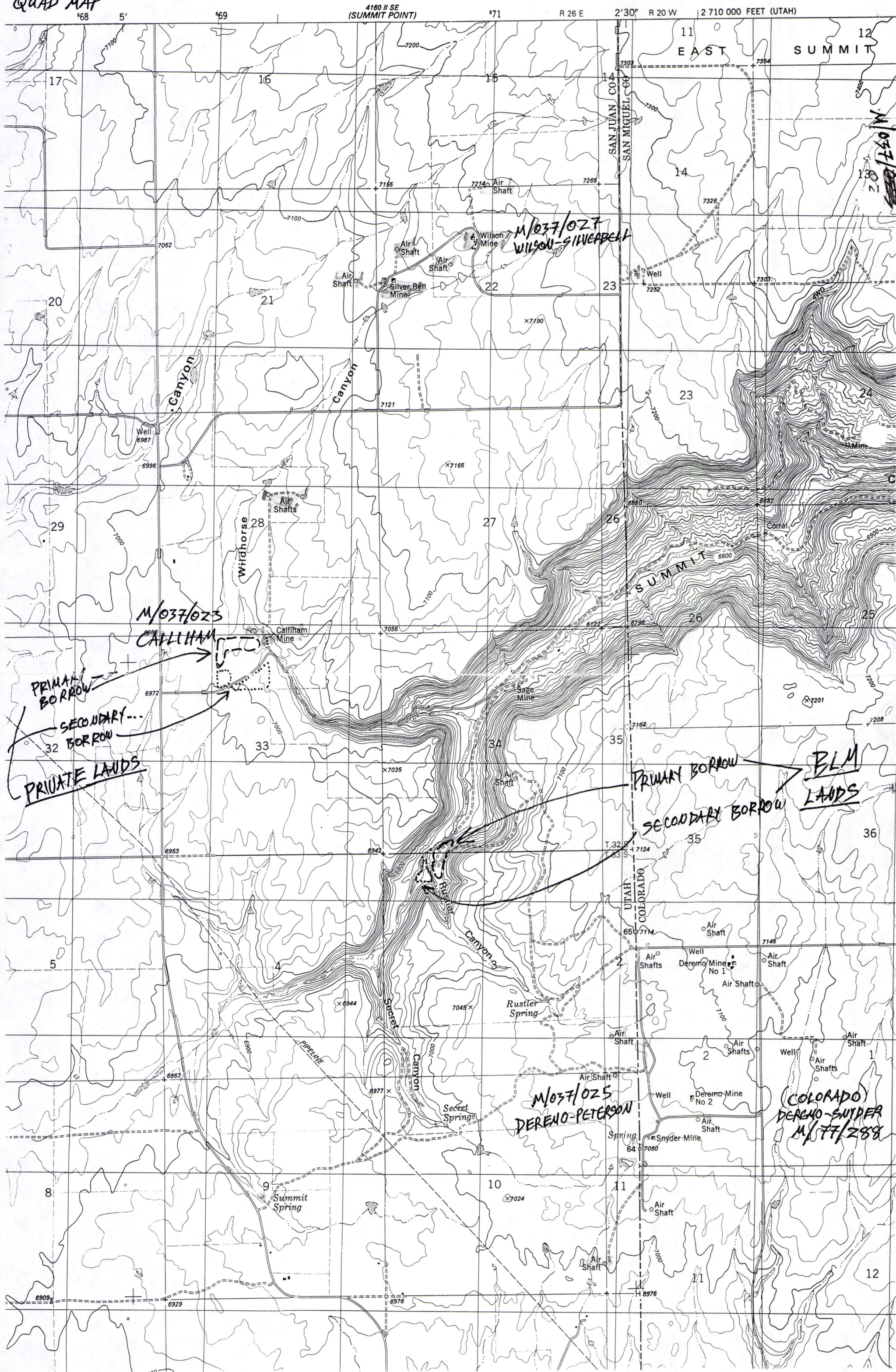
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Umetco is still using the metal shop buildings near the Wilson head frame area for equipment maintenance and storage. This site includes an evaporation pond located to the north of the head frame, some waste rock dumps, and several wooden buildings which appear run down. The hoist house and head frame will probably be removed, with the other three metal buildings remaining intact for the landowner. Power lines at this site belong to Utah Power and Light Company. The Wilson shaft opening is currently blocked by the hoist cage. Photographs were taken of the general surface facilities at the Wilson head frame to document the site conditions.

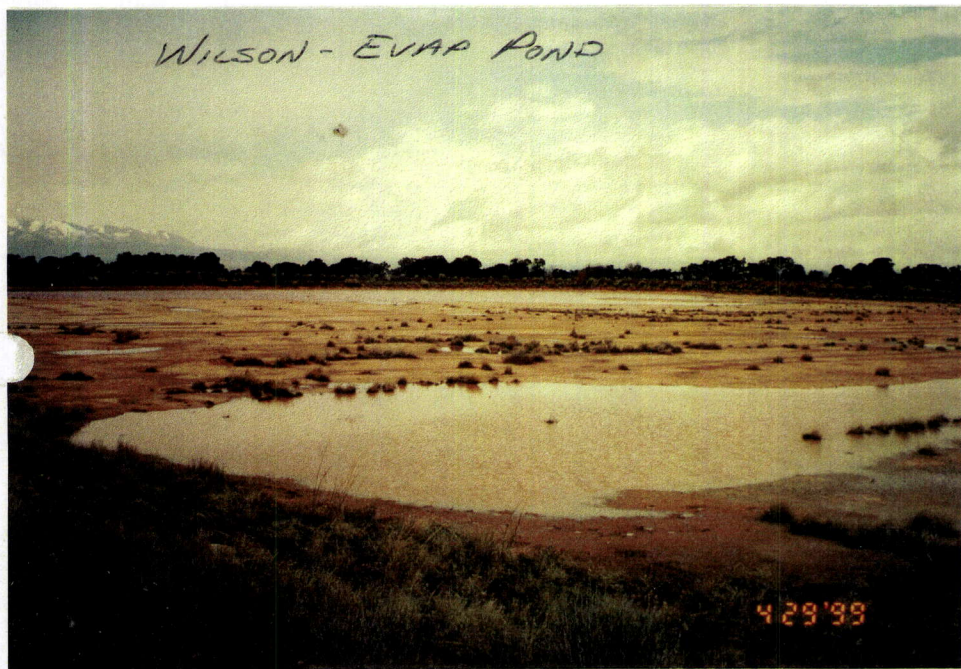
The two shaft sites included in this one permit appear to be in a stable condition. The two sites were not examined in closer detail due to the muddy conditions from the recent rains. Umetco agreed to provide the Division with UTM coordinates for this mine in addition to the same information for their other mines. Umetco would like to know the official suspension status of this site according to the Division's rules regarding extended states of suspension. The Division files will need to be reviewed to answer this question.

jb
cc: Tony Bates, Umetco
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PIUTE KNOLL
QUAD MAP



m/0-7/027



m/037/027

